

ANNUAL REVIEW OF MEDICINE—Volume 7—1956—David A. Ryland, Editor and William Creger, Associated Editor, both from Stanford University School of Medicine. Annual Reviews, Inc., Stanford, Calif., 1956. 611 pages, \$7.00.

The reviewer is favorably impressed by volume 7 of the Annual Review of Medicine even as he was by volume 6 which appeared in 1955. The different sections are written by authors who have provided thoughtful and useful reviews of important advances in selected areas of medical knowledge. Although the average physician may not keep this volume in his own library, it can be highly useful as a point of departure whenever he wishes to look up recent literature on a given subject. The subjects are not covered in complete detail, but in a responsible and broad enough way to make developments readily available.

In spite of this, this group of abstracts, as others, falls behind in one important respect: Their most recent literature is one or more years old before it can possibly reach the reader; e.g., in the case of this volume, which arrived for review at the end of June 1956, the articles included only literature published prior to a date varying from March to October 1955.

* * *

CLINICAL UNIPOLAR ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY—Third Edition—Bernard S. Lipman, M.D., Instructor in Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine and Edward Massie, M.D., Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Washington University School of Medicine. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois St., Chicago, 1956. 397 pages, \$7.50.

As in the past, the third edition of this book remains an eloquent introduction to the field of electrocardiology. In simple didactic language and diagrams, it illustrates the genesis of the various patterns encountered in electrocardiography. However, in any compilation of data, certain errors are noted. For example, under interarterial septal defects of the secundum type, the author states the electrocardiographic changes are indefinite, whereas most of these patients have electrocardiograms which show incomplete or complete right bundle branch block. The importance of the ventricular activation time in V_1 in infants is omitted. Some of the electrocardiograms are subject to different interpretations. However, this book remains an excellent introductory study for the beginner in electrocardiology.

* * *

LYSERGIC ACID DIETHYLAMIDE AND Mescaline IN EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHIATRY—Proceedings of the Round Table, American Psychiatric Association, 1955—Edited by Louis Cholden, M.D., Chairman, Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, UCLA School of Medicine. Grune & Stratton, New York, 1956. 85 pages, \$3.00.

This is a small book of 85 pages which give "The Proceedings of the Round Table on Lysergic Acid Diethylamide and Mescaline in Experimental Psychiatry, held at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association, May 12, 1955." Twelve different speakers participated, following which there were questions and discussion by the audience, followed by answers and final statements by the members of the panel.

Psychiatry has been greatly interested in drugs that seem to artificially reproduce a specific type of mental disorder, and recently there has been a great deal of study and research on a number of such drugs, particularly those that produce a schizophrenic-like reaction. It is felt by many that if one artificially produces such reactions by these various drugs and then studies in great detail what occurs we will get some real understanding of what schizophrenia is. The papers presented deal mainly with LSD-25, Frenquel and Mescaline. The different papers may discuss one of these drugs from a pharmacological or psychiatric point of view. One paper discusses the use of lysergic acid in the treatment

of mental disorders. There is a five-page discussion of Mescaline and the "Other World," by Aldous Huxley, who participated in this discussion. Most of the other contributors are psychiatrists. The book can be recommended for any one who wishes to read about these newer drugs that produce psychotic-like reactions.

* * *

THE MANAGEMENT OF FRACTURES, DISLOCATIONS AND SPRAINS—Sixth Edition—John Albert Key, B.S., M.D., Clinical Professor Emeritus of Orthopedic Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis; and H. Earle Conwell, M.D., Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Alabama School of Medicine, Birmingham. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1956. 1168 pages, \$20.00.

The sixth edition of this old standard American Text on the Treatment of Fractures is a further improvement upon its predecessors. This has been a standard work in its field since 1934. Its format has not changed, simply the material has been altered and illustrations changed in many respects.

The section having to do with compound injuries and treatment of infections has been altered appreciably and definitely improved in this new edition.

The section having to do with treatment of fractures of the forearm has been altered and improved also. It is to be regretted that the old illustrations are still used in the current text, however, demonstrating the use of wire loop fixation for fractures of the forearm.

The section on fractures of the hand has been appreciably improved by changes in the text to conform to the later techniques and thinking of treatment of these injuries from a functional, rather than an x-ray, viewpoint.

The section on fractures of the hip, particularly dealing with the reconstructive procedures and with the fracture dislocations of the acetabulum, has also been altered to improve the quality of the work generally.

This book has always been noted for its conservative approach and the sixth edition reflects further credit to the authors in continuing their conservative approach, but showing their own excellent judgment in including the newer techniques which have proved to be of value. The book has been very worth while in the past years, since its original publication, the sixth edition has sufficient improvement to increase its value and stature both.

* * *

EPILEPTIC SEIZURES—A Correlative Study of Historical Diagnostic, Therapeutic, Educational, and Employment Aspects of Epilepsy—John R. Green, M.D., and Harry F. Steelman, M.D., The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1956. 165 pages, \$5.00.

This short volume of 160 pages is made up of a group of papers given at a joint meeting of the Western Institute of Epilepsy, the Western EEG Society and the American Academy of General Practice, Arizona Chapter held in Phoenix, Arizona, in 1955. It is divided into four parts: (1) The diagnosis of epileptic seizures, (2) the treatment of epileptic seizures, (3) education of the epileptic patient, and (4) employment and rehabilitation aspects. The different chapters vary a great deal in method of presentation as would be expected with the variety of workers involved. Dr. Wilder Penfield has contributed several chapters setting forth its particular outlook on epilepsy. There is no question but that all subjects presented can be found in better form elsewhere. On the other hand the particular choice of topics has been very good so that the subject of epilepsy has been covered quite adequately. For this reason, the book can be recommended to the general practitioner who cares for some epileptics in his practice and can probably be recommended to the families of patients who have epilepsy. In the latter regard, the only word of caution lies in the rather optimistic presentation of the surgical treatment of this condition resulting from the undue proportion of surgical authorship.